

THE BLACKS IN GOVERNMENT (BIG) ENERGY CHAPTER AND  
THE OFFICE OF ECONOMIC IMPACT AND DIVERSITY PRESENTS BLACK HISTORY MONTH 2018

# AFRICAN AMERICANS IN TIMES OF WAR

**Keynote Speaker**

**John W. Franklin**

Cultural Historian, National  
Museum of African American  
History and Culture



**TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2018**

**2:00 PM – 3:00 PM (EST), FORRESTAL AUDITORIUM**

**LIVE STREAMING: [ENERGY.GOV/LIVE-STREAM](http://ENERGY.GOV/LIVE-STREAM)**









# BLACK HISTORY MONTH PROGRAM 2018

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## African Americans in Times of War

February 20, 2018

2:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

**Mistress of Ceremonies**

**Larisha Warner**

Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist  
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

**Honor Guard**

**Joint Armed Forces Color Guard**

**National Anthem**

**Patrice Carthern**

Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

**Welcome Remarks**

**Rick Perry**

Secretary  
Department of Energy

**Introduction of Keynote Speaker**

**Rick Perry**

Secretary  
Department of Energy

**Keynote Speaker**

**John W. Franklin**

Cultural Historian  
National Museum of African American  
History and Culture

**Introduction of Musical Performance**

**Gregory Jackson**

President  
Blacks In Government Energy Chapter

**Musical Performance**

**Andrew Shannon Talent Showcase**

Andrew Shannon Music Group

**Closing Remarks**

**Ann Augustyn**

Principal Deputy Director  
Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

**Cultural Food Tasting reception immediately following in conference room 1E-245.**







# PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP

Proclaims February 2018 as National African American History Month, (Issued on: January 31, 2018)

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This February, we celebrate National African American History Month to honor the significant contributions African Americans have made to our great Nation — contributions that stand as a testament to their resolve, resilience, and courage. Over the course of our Nation's history, African Americans have endured egregious discrimination and bigotry. They have, nevertheless, always been determined to contribute their earnest efforts to America's greatness.

This annual observance is an opportunity to remember the challenges of our past, but also to honor countless African-American heroes who inspire us to shape our country's future. This year's theme, "African Americans in Times of War," calls our attention to the heroic contributions of African Americans during our Nation's military conflicts, from the Revolutionary War to present-day operations.

Throughout our history, members of the Armed Forces have fought to secure freedom and liberty for all, defending our country both on our shores and in foreign lands. African Americans have shouldered an enormous share of the burden of battle in every American military engagement, donning our Nation's military uniforms to answer the call of duty. For far too long, African Americans bravely fought and died in the name of freedom, while at the same time struggling to attain equality, respect, and the full privileges of citizenship. Because of their love of country, these heroes insisted on serving and defending America despite racial prejudice, unequal treatment, diminished opportunities, and segregation. Their valorous acts in the face of grave injustice revealed the true meaning of American patriotism — service before self.

It was not until 1948 that President Harry S. Truman ordered desegregation of the military, providing "equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the Armed Forces without regard to race, color, religion or national origin." It took another 5 years before the Secretary of Defense abolished the last segregated African-American military unit. These hard won victories for justice catalyzed other victories, as they cast a harsh light on aspects of our social and civic lives that remained segregated. Those who fought against and ended segregation in the military reminded the Nation of its obligation to the self-evident truth of equality written into the Declaration of Independence.

We remember soldiers like Sergeant Henry Johnson of the Harlem Hellfighters, the all-black National Guard unit that was among the first American forces to arrive in France during World War I. Johnson suffered 21 wounds during front-line combat and received France's highest award for valor. To acknowledge his exceeding bravery, he was posthumously awarded the Distinguished Service Cross and a Purple Heart. We remember pilot Benjamin O. Davis, Jr., who commanded the famed Tuskegee Airmen and became the first African American General in the United States Air Force. We remember soldiers like Major Charity Adams Earley, who was commander of the only all African American Women's Army Corps unit that served overseas during World War II. She was a trailblazer in her efforts to recruit more women to military service in spite of rampant racism and segregation.

These and countless other African Americans triumphed over ignorance, oppression, and injustice to make indelible contributions, not only to our military history, but even more importantly to our American history. They are an integral part of our Nation's story. We are indebted to the individual and collective perseverance and patriotism of these outstanding men and women, as we are to all African Americans who have served, and continue to serve in the Armed Forces of this great Nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, DONALD J. TRUMP, President of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and the laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim February 2018 as National African American History Month. I call upon public officials, educators, librarians, and all the people of the United States to observe this month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this thirty-first day of January, in the year of our Lord two thousand eighteen, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and forty-second.

DONALD J. TRUMP





Military graduates of historically Black colleges and universities (HBCUs), today, hold leadership positions at all levels of American life, both civilian and military. Vernon Jordan, past president of the National Urban League, noted that Black colleges formerly graduated up to 75 percent of all Black PhDs, 75 percent of all Black Army officers, 80 percent of all Black federal judges, and 85 percent of all Black physicians.

The National Center for Education Statistics defines HBCUs as those institutions of higher learning founded before 1954 with the primary purpose of educating Blacks. In 1954 the common practice of racially separate education systems was declared unconstitutional. There were originally 105 HBCUs located in 19 states and the District of Columbia. Today, there are 100 HBCUs which provide degrees varying from sub-baccalaureate to doctoral and first professional levels. Many HBCUs also support Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) programs. The contributions of HBCUs to the Military Services are legion.

Numerous military leaders have been HBCU graduates, many at general officer or flag rank. The following biographical sketches include some graduates of HBCUs who went on to distinguish themselves in military service. Every attempt was made to reflect the most recent information available.

## MILITARY GRADUATES OF HBCUs

**Colonel Rosetta A. Armour-Lightner, (USAF)**, Talladega College, AL. Colonel Armour-Lightner was commissioned in March 1963. She was the first woman instructor at any Air Force ROTC unit (Ohio State University) as well as the first Black woman line colonel in the Air Force. She also served as Professor of Aerospace Studies and Commander, Air Force ROTC Detachment at Grambling State University.

**Musician Third Class (Petty Officer) Evangeline G. Bailey, (USN)**, Norfolk State College, VA. In 1972, Petty Officer Bailey was selected as the first female vocalist and also the first Black female musician in naval history.

**Captain Joan C. Bynum, (USN)**, Meharry Medical School, TN. Captain Bynum was the Navy's first Black woman to be selected for promotion to Captain. She served in the Nurse Corps at several naval hospitals.

**Admiral Samuel L. Gravely, (USN)**, Virginia Union University, VA. Admiral Gravely enlisted in the Naval Reserve in September 1942. He was the first Black to graduate from a Naval Midshipman School when he was commissioned as an ensign in the Navy Reserve. During World War II, he served as an assistant battalion commander at a naval

training center and as a communications/ electronics officer at a sub-chaser training center. During the Korean conflict, he served as a radio officer aboard the battleship USS Iowa and Communications Officer on the USS Toledo. In Vietnam he served as Commander, USS Jouett. He was the first Black admiral in the Navy and the first Black to command a US warship, the USS Falgout. He graduated from the Naval War College and received a Bachelor of Arts in History from Virginia Union University.

**Brigadier General James T. Boddie, Jr., (USAF)**, Howard University, Washington, DC. General Boddie was commissioned through the ROTC program. In Vietnam he served with the 559th Tactical Fighter Squadron. He was a command pilot with 4,000 flying hours in jet fighters. Some of his military awards include: Legion of Merit and Distinguished Flying Cross.



**Major General Thomas E. Clifford, (USAF),** Howard University, Washington, DC. General Clifford was commissioned through the ROTC program in March 1949. During the Korean conflict, he served as a fighter pilot with the 449th Fighter Interceptor Squadron in Alaska. In Vietnam he served as Deputy Commander and Vice Commander, 366th Tactical Fighter Wing. He graduated from the Industrial College of the Armed Forces. In addition to a BA degree from Howard, he received an MBA from George Washington University. Some of his military awards include: Legion of Merit and Distinguished Flying Cross.

**Major General Albert J. Edmonds, (USAF),** Morris Brown College, GA. General Edmonds was commissioned upon graduation from Officer Training School in November 1964. He was a graduate of the Air War College and completed the national security program for senior officials at Harvard University. In addition to a BS in Chemistry from Morris Brown, he received an MA in Counseling Psychology from Hampton Institute, VA. Some of his military awards include: Defense Distinguished Service Medal and Legion of Merit.

Brigadier General Alonzo L. Ferguson, (USAF), Howard University, Washington, DC. General Ferguson began his active service in 1952. He served as Commander, 21st Air Division/North American Air Defense Region. He received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology. Some of his military awards include: Silver Star and Legion of Merit.

**Brigadier General David M. Hall, (USAF),** Howard University, Washington, DC. In addition to a BA in Business Administration from Howard, General Hall received an MS in Educational Psychology from North Carolina Agricultural and Mechanical University. Some of his military awards include: Distinguished Service Medal and Legion of Merit.

**Major General Titus C. Hall, (USAF),** Tuskegee Institute, AL. General Hall began his active service in 1942. He was a master navigator and had 4,000 flying hours. In addition to a BS in Electrical Engineering from Tuskegee, he received an MS in Systems Engineering from the University of Southern California. Some of his military awards include: Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, and Bronze Star.

**Brigadier General Marcelite J. Harris, (USAF),** Spelman College, GA. Colonel Harris enlisted in the Air Force in September 1965 and was commissioned as a second lieutenant in December 1965. During the Vietnam War, she served as a maintenance officer and flight line maintenance officer in Thailand. She graduated from the Air War College. In addition to a BA from Spelman College, she received a Bachelor of Science from the University of Maryland. She also received the Bronze Star.

**Brigadier General Avon C. James, (USAF),** Morgan State University, MD. General James completed his bachelor's degree in 1951. In 1978 he served as First Deputy Commander for Data Automation, Headquarters Air Force Communications Command. Some of his military awards include: Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service, and Air Force Commendation Medals.

**Togo D. West Jr.,** Howard University, Washington, DC. Mr. West served as the General Counsel of the Navy from 1977-1979. In addition to a BS in Electrical Engineering from Howard, he received a JD in Law from Howard University. While on active duty, he was an Army captain and served in the Military Justice Division of the Office of the Judge Advocate General. He also received the Legion of Merit.

For additional information for former military graduates of HBCUs: <https://www.deomi.org/DownloadableFiles/humanRelations/documents/BLACKHISTORYMONTH1991.pdf>



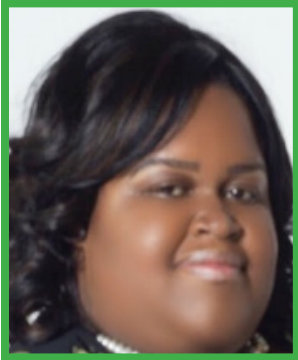




# **LARISHA Y. WARNER**

Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist, Office of Equal Employment Opportunity

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Ms. Larisha Warner joined the Department of Energy in January 2017, as an Equal Employment Specialist within the Office of Equal Employment Opportunity. Ms. Warner currently serves as the Special Emphasis Program Manager (SEPM) for the Hispanic/Latino and Black/African-American Employment Program, and manages DOE's special emphasis observances. In this SEPM role, she works to ensure that all employees, especially those members of underrepresented groups, are afforded equal opportunities in alignment with this Department's mission and goals.

Prior to joining the Department, Ms. Warner entered into the federal government as an intern with the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation's (PBGC) Office of Information Technology in 2009. In her quest to seek out an internship related to her college field of study (African-American Studies/Public Policy), Ms. Warner began interning with PBGC's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity (OEEO) in January 2011. In April 2012, she permanently joined OEEO as an Equal Employment Analyst after fulfilling all of her undergraduate degree program requirements. From that moment forward, Ms. Warner gained knowledge and experience in advising employees, managers and senior leaders on affirmative employment matters; conducting data analysis; understanding diversity and inclusion; advising and developing diversity and inclusion councils; special emphasis program observances; to serving as a mentor to incoming Pathways and Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU) interns.

Ms. Warner has received training in many areas germane to her position at the DOE including, Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Management Directive 715, Barrier Analysis, MicroTrigger/Unconscious Bias, New IQ, Diversity & Inclusion, cultural differences, leadership, facilitation and critical thinking skills. She is also a certified trainer for Civil Treatment for Managers and Employees and a certified EEO Counselor.

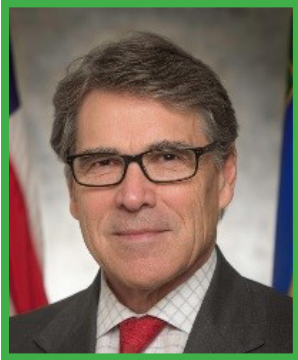
Ms. Warner holds a B.A. degree in African-American Studies/Public Policy from the University of Maryland College Park; a M.S. degree in Business Management/Marketing from the University of Maryland - University College; Associate & Graduate Certificates in the Project Management Program from George Washington University. She is currently pursuing a M.A. degree in Human Services Counseling/Life Coaching from Liberty University.



# **RICK PERRY**

Secretary, U.S. Department of Energy

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Rick Perry currently serves as the 14th United States Secretary of Energy. He leads an agency tasked with maintaining a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent and reducing the threat of nuclear proliferation, overseeing the United States' energy supply, carrying out the environmental clean-up from the Cold War nuclear mission, and managing the 17 National Laboratories, home to the country's best scientists and engineers.

Secretary Perry is a veteran of the United States Air Force, a former farmer and rancher, and the longest-serving governor in Texas history, having led the world's 12th-largest economy from 2000 to 2015. He has devoted his adult life to creating prosperity and opportunity for families.

Prior to joining the Administration as Secretary of Energy, Perry served as the 47th Governor of Texas. As Governor of the Lone Star State, Perry championed conservative principles that helped Texas become America's economic engine. Under Perry's leadership, Texas became a national leader for job creation, innovation, and population growth.

Perry's leadership of Texas proved that economic growth and protection of the environment can be achieved simultaneously. While adding population and more than 2.2 million jobs during his tenure, Texas also experienced major reductions in carbon dioxide, sulfur dioxide, and nitrogen oxide emissions. Despite having a rapidly growing population and one of the largest petrochemical refining industries in the world, Texas saw its air quality improve.

Perry grew up the son of tenant farmers in the tiny West Texas community of Paint Creek. The younger of Ray and Amelia Perry's two children, he was active in scouting and earned distinction as an Eagle Scout. He was one of the first in his family to go to college, earning a degree in Animal Science from Texas A&M University, where he was also a member of the Corps of Cadets and a Yell Leader.

Between 1972 and 1977, Perry served in the U.S. Air Force flying C-130 tactical airlift aircraft in Europe and the Middle East. He is a lifetime member of both the NRA and American Legion Post #75. Prior to being elected Lieutenant Governor in 1998, he served two terms as Texas Commissioner of Agriculture and three terms in the Texas House of Representatives.

Perry married his childhood sweetheart, Anita, in 1982. They have two children and two beautiful granddaughters.



# GREGORY JACKSON

President, Department of Energy Chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG)

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Mr. Jackson is the President of the Department of Energy Chapter of Blacks in Government (BIG) and a member of the Military Veterans Emphasis Committee.

**Experience and Expertise:** Mr. Jackson brings a breadth and depth of implementing the full spectrum of policy making, training, position management, coaching, and leadership and employee development.

Currently, Mr. Jackson has oversight of Federal Acquisition Certifications for approximately 700 Contracting Officers' Representatives and 300 Program and Project Managers who support the Department of Energy's support procurement activities inherent with the Department's annual budget of approximately \$28B.

Mr. Jackson has served with the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Department of Education, and the Department of Agriculture, where he served as a voting member of the DHS training leadership council representing 20k employees; implemented a leadership development program to support the agencies succession planning efforts at the Department of Education; and served as a Program Manager for a signature leadership development program for bench scientists to hold high-level leadership positions within the Department of Agriculture.

**Volunteer Service:** As a member of the Washington, DC Knights of Columbus, he served as the DC State Programs Coordinator and Past Deputy Grand Knight of the St. Anthony Council #417.

**Education:** Mr. Jackson holds a Master's Degree in Public Administration from the American University's Key Executive Leadership Program, a Bachelor's Degree in Business Management with a concentration in Human Resources Management and has completed more than 700 hours of leadership training while serving in the military.

**Military Service:** Mr. Jackson served 22 years as a United States Marine, where he retired honorably as a Master Sergeant. While serving, he deployed extensively to Beirut, Thailand, Hong Kong, Singapore, Tokyo and Okinawa Japan, Philippines, Australia, Kenya, Somalia, Norway, and Iceland. His military awards and decorations include, but are not limited to: the U.S. Navy Commendation Medal; Navy Achievement Medal; U.S. Marine Corps Expeditionary Medal; and the National Defense Service Medal.

**Personal Life:** Mr. Jackson is happily married to Mrs. Cherie Brown Jackson (32 years). They have 3 children and 3 grandchildren.



# JOHN W. FRANKLIN

Cultural Historian, National Museum of African American History and Culture

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John W. Franklin serves as the cultural historian and senior manager in the Office of External Affairs at Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture. Mr. Franklin received his bachelor's degree in Anthropology from Stanford University, with a focus on French-speaking West Africa and Caribbean societies. He later did graduate work at Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies focusing on African development issues.

Prior to joining the National Museum of African American History and Culture, Mr. Franklin served as a Program Manager and Curator with Smithsonian's Center for Folklife and Cultural Heritage, where his responsibilities included curating the annual Smithsonian's Folklife Festival's programming, around Washington, D.C, Mali, Cape Verde and the Bahamas. Mr. Franklin also served as a Program Specialist in the Smithsonian's Office of Interdisciplinary Studies where he organized conferences on Black Francophone Presence in the U.S, African Americans and the Evolution of the Living Constitution, African Immigration, West Africa Research and Human Rights and Scientific Progress and Cultural Diversity. He has participated in conferences in Paris at The Quai Branly Museum on The Exhibition of Slavery and the Archaeology of Slavery in 2011 and 2012 respectively.



# Andrew Shannon Talent Showcase

Andrew Shannon Music Group

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Andrew Shannon, founder and organizer of Southeast Community Day Parade and Festival; Feeding 5000; and the Andrew Shannon Gospel Music Celebration, will be celebrating 28 years and features a Talent Showcase of performances throughout the country. The Andrew Shannon Gospel Music Celebration featuring the Drumline and Talent Showcase started in 1990 and features national and regional performing artists.

The Andrew Shannon Drumline and Talent Showcase includes a video presentation with a cadre of photos set to music giving prominence to “African Americans in Times of War.” The presentation will also include a modern dance performance, “America the Beautiful”, by Edna V. Davis and Vernita Williams from Hampton, Virginia, and culminate with the drumline performance of Calvary Cardinals from Newport News, Virginia. Narrators for the Talent Showcase are Reverend Dean Nelson and Pastor T. DuWayne Privette, and musicians include Bishop Ray Bynum and PFC. Rufus J. Whitfield serves as the technical advisor for the Andrew Shannon Talent Showcase.





# **ANN (SWEENEY) AUGUSTYN**

Principal Deputy Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

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Ms. Augustyn has worked for the Department of Energy for 30 years. She is currently the Principal Deputy Director, Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, U.S. Department of Energy in Washington, D.C, and previously served as Deputy Director, Office of Civil Rights and Equal Opportunity, in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity

Before assuming her roles in the Office of Economic Impact and Diversity, Ms. Augustyn served as an Administrative Judge and the Chief of the Personnel Security and Appeals Division at DOE's Office of Hearings and Appeals (OHA). In those capacities, Ms. Augustyn conducted classified and unclassified hearings and issued Agency Decisions in cases involving DOE security clearances and contractor whistleblower complaints, and supervised Administrative Judges and attorneys who performed a variety of tasks for the DOE. She also conducted high profile Management Inquiries and Fact-Findings in sensitive cases, including many with EEO overtones.

Ms. Augustyn has been an instructor at George Washington University in Washington, D.C., teaching courses in administrative law, and the National Nuclear Security Administration's National Training Center, teaching classes on personnel security matters. Prior to joining the Department, Ms. Augustyn worked as an associate attorney at Foreman & Dyess in their Houston, Texas and Washington, D.C. offices, where she concentrated her practice on oil and gas law, bankruptcy law, and administrative litigation.

Ms. Augustyn graduated cum laude from Boston College Law School. She received her B.A. degree, summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa, from Boston College. She is a graduate of the Federal Executive Institute, which is a training program for selected Federal executives and managers. Ms. Augustyn is licensed to practice law in the District of Columbia.



# NOTES





